

PATENT

Docket No. 0769-4582US1IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

BAHAR, et al.

Serial No.: 09/209,932

Group Art Unit: 1700

Filed on: July 8, 1998

Examiner: B. Copenheaver

For: ULTRA-THIN INTEGRAL COMPOSITE MEMBRANE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Official
FAX RECEIVED
MAY 7 2001
GROUP 1700

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CORRECTION OF
INVENTORSHIP PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.48

Sir:

I, Robert S. Mallouk, aver that I am a co-inventor of the above identified application, and that the failure to be included as such in the above-identified application was inadvertent and occurred without any deceptive intent.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or Imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any Robert S. MalloukInventor's signature Robert S. Mallouk July 21, 2000
DateResidence 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (USA)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (USA)

11116_2

Match & Return

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL,
DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION**

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: ULTRA-THIN COMPOSITE MEMBRANE the specification of which

- a. [] is attached hereto
- b. [x] was filed on July 8, 1998 as application Serial No. 09/209 932 and was amended on January 27, 1999, June 4, 1999, June 28, 1999, and November 12, 1999. (if applicable).

PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STAGE

- c. [] was described and claimed in International Application No. _____ filed on _____ and as amended on _____. (if any).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

We hereby specify the following as the correspondence address to which all communications about this application are to be directed:

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Michael S. Marcus

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10154

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Michael S. Marcus (202) 857-7887

[] We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a)-(d) or under § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S. listed below and also have identified below such foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or such PCT international application(s) filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date within twelve (12) months before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

[] The attached 35 U.S.C. § 119 claim for priority for the application(s) listed below forms a part of this declaration.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date of filing</u> (day, month, yr)	<u>Date of issue</u> (day, month, yr)	<u>Priority</u> <u>Claimed</u>
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

[] we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any U.S. provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Provisional Application No.</u>	<u>Date of filing (day, month, yr)</u>

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART
OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S)/DESIGNATING THE U.S.)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the U.S. listed below.

<u>08/903,844</u>	<u>July 31, 1997</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
<u>US/PCT Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)</u>
<u>08/339,425</u>	<u>November 14, 1994</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
<u>US/PCT Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)</u>

[] In this continuation-in-part application, insofar as the subject matter of any of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the above listed prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Gary A. Samuels, 20,811; John S. Campbell, 28,366; Victor M. Genco, Jr., 34,335; David J. Johns, 31,527; Wayne D. House, 34,623; Eric J. Sheets, 30,326; Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306; Allan M. Whealcraft (36,307) of W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., whose address is 551 Paper Mill Road, Newark, DE 19714,9206;

John A. Diaz (Reg. No. 19,550), John C. Vassil (Reg. No. 19,098), Alfred P. Ewert (Reg. No. 19,887), David H. Pfeffer (Reg. No. 19,825), Harry C. Marcus (Reg. No. 22,390), Robert E. Paulson (Reg. No. 21,046), Stephen R. Smith (Reg. No. 22,615), Kurt E. Richter (Reg. No. 24,052), J. Robert Dailey (Reg. No. 27,434), Eugene Moroz (Reg. No. 25,237), John F. Sweeney (Reg. No. 27,471), Arnold I. Rady (Reg. No. 26,601), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), William S. Feiler (Reg. No. 26,728), Joseph A. Calvaruso (Reg. No. 28,287), James W. Gould

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

(Reg. No. 28,859), Richard C. Komson (Reg. No. 27,913), Israel Blum (Reg. No. 26,710), Bartholomew Verdirame (Reg. No. 28,483), Maria C.H. Lin (reg. No. 29,323), Joseph A. DeGirolamo (Reg. No. 28,595), Michael P. Dougherty (Reg. No. 32,730), Seth J. Atlas (Reg. No. 32,454), Andrew M. Riddles (Reg. No. 31,657), Bruce D. DeRenzi (Reg. No. 33,676), Michael M. Murray (Reg. No. 32,537), Mark J. Abate (Reg. No. 32,527), Alfred L. Haffner, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,919), Harold Haidt (Reg. No. 17,509), John T. Gallagher (Reg. No. 35,516), Steven F. Meyer (Reg. No. 35,613) and Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld (Reg. No. 33,285) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P. whose address is: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10154; and Edward A. Pennington (Reg. No. 32,588), Michael S. Marcus (Reg. No. 31,727) and John E. Hoel (Reg. No. 26,279) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P., whose address is 1775 Eye Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006.

We hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove to accept and follow instructions from _____ as to any actions to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and/or agents and me. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken we will so notify the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove.

Full name of sole or first inventor BAMDAD BOHAR

Inventor's signature* _____ date _____

Residence 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)

Full name of second joint inventor ALEX R. HOBSON

Inventor's signature* Alex R. Hobson date 4/24/01

Residence 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Full name of third joint inventor, if any JEFFRY A. KOLDE

Inventor's signature* Jeffry A. Kolde date 4/24/01

Residence 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)

Docket No. 0769-4582US1Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any ROBERT S. MALLOUK

Inventor's signature _____ date _____

Residence 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

ATTACHED IS ADDED PAGE TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SIGNATURE BY THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT INVENTORS FORM.

* Before signing this declaration, each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

After the declaration is signed, the specification and claims are not to be altered.

To the inventor(s):

The following are cited in or pertinent to the declaration attached to the accompanying application:

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, §1.56

Duty to disclose information material to patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Title 35, U S Code § 101**Inventions patentable**

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Title 35 U S Code § 102**Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent,
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other ...

Title 35, U S Code § 103**Conditions for patentability; non-obvious subject matter**

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Title 35, U S Code § 112 (in part)

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Specification

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Title 35 U.S. Code, § 119

Benefit of earlier filing date in foreign country; right of priority

An application for patent for an invention filed in this country by any person who has, or whose legal representatives or assigns have, previously regularly filed an application for a patent for the same invention in a foreign country which affords similar privileges in the case of applications filed in the United States or to citizens of the United States, shall have the same effect as the same application would have if filed in this country on the date on which the application for patent for the same invention was first filed in such foreign country, if the application in this country is filed within twelve months from the earliest date on which such foreign application was filed; but no patent shall be granted on any application for patent for an invention which had been patented or described in a printed publication in any country more than one year before the date of the actual filing of the application in this country, or which had been in public use or on sale in this country more than one year prior to such filing.

Title 35 U.S. Code, § 120

Benefit or earlier filing date in the United States

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

Please read carefully before signing the Declaration attached to the accompanying Application.

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

FORM: COMB-DEC.NY
Rev. 7/23/06

Docket No. 0769-3582US1

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL,
DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION**

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: ULTRA-THIN COMPOSITE MEMBRANE the specification of which

- a. [] is attached hereto
- b. [x] was filed on July 8, 1998 as application Serial No. 09/209 932 and was amended on January 27, 1999, June 4, 1999, June 28, 1999, and November 12, 1999. (if applicable).

PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STAGE

- c. [] was described and claimed in International Application No. _____ filed on _____ and as amended on _____. (if any).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

We hereby specify the following as the correspondence address to which all communications about this application are to be directed:

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Michael S. Marcus

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10154

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Michael S. Marcus (202) 857-7887

[] We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a)-(d) or under § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S. listed below and also have identified below such foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or such PCT international application(s) filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date within twelve (12) months before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

[] The attached 35 U.S.C. § 119 claim for priority for the application(s) listed below forms a part of this declaration.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date of filing (day month yr)</u>	<u>Date of issue (day month yr)</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
				[] YES [] NO
				[] YES [] NO
				[] YES [] NO

[] we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any U.S. provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Provisional Application No.</u>	<u>Date of filing (day month yr)</u>

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART
OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S) (DESIGNATING THE U.S.)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the U.S. listed below.

<u>08/903,844</u>	<u>July 31, 1997</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)
<u>08/339,425</u>	<u>November 14, 1994</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)

[] In this continuation-in-part application, insofar as the subject matter of any of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the above listed prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

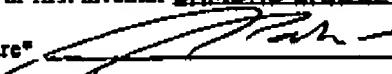
Gary A. Samuels, 20,811; John S. Campbell, 28,366; Victor M. Genco, Jr., 34,335; David J. Johns, 31,527, Wayne D. House, 34,623; Eric J. Sheets, 30,326; Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306, Allan M. Wheatcraft (36,307) of W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., whose address is 551 Paper Mill Road, Newark, DE 19714,9206;

John A. Diaz (Reg. No. 19,550), John C. Vassil (Reg. No. 19,098), Alfred P. Ewert (Reg. No. 19,887), David H. Pfeffer (Reg. No. 19,825), Harry C. Marcus (Reg. No. 22,390), Robert E. Paulson (Reg. No. 21,046), Stephen R. Smith (Reg. No. 22,615), Kurt E. Richter (Reg. No. 24,052), J. Robert Dailey (Reg. No. 27,434), Eugene Moroz (Reg. No. 25,237), John F. Sweeney (Reg. No. 27,471), Arnold I. Rady (Reg. No. 26,601), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), William S. Feiler (Reg. No. 26,728), Joseph A. Calvaruso (Reg. No. 28,287), James W. Gould

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

(Reg. No. 28,859), Richard C. Komson (Reg. No. 27,913), Israel Blum (Reg. No. 26,710), Bartholomew Verdirame (Reg. No. 28,483), Maria C.H. Lin (reg. No. 29,323), Joseph A. DeGirolamo (Reg. No. 28,595), Michael P. Dougherty (Reg. No. 32,730), Seth J. Atlas (Reg. No. 32,454), Andrew M. Riddles (Reg. No. 31,657), Bruce D. DeRenzi (Reg. No. 33,676), Michael M. Murray (Reg. No. 32,537), Mark J. Abate (Reg. No. 32,527), Alfred L. Haffner, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,919), Harold Haidt (Reg. No. 17,509), John T. Gallagher (Reg. No. 35,516), Steven F. Meyer (Reg. No. 35,613) and Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld (Reg. No. 33,285) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P. whose address is: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10154; and Edward A. Pennington (Reg. No. 32,588), Michael S. Marcus (Reg. No. 31,727) and John E. Hoel (Reg. No. 26,279) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P., whose address is 1775 Eye Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006.

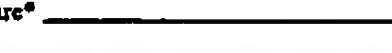
We hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove to accept and follow instructions from _____ as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and/or agents and me. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken we will so notify the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove.

Full name of sole or first inventor BAMDAD BAHARInventor's signature* Apr. 6, 1991

date

Residence 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)Full name of second joint inventor ALEX R. HOBSONInventor's signature* 

date

Residence 110 Liberty Lane, Elkin, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 110 Liberty Lane, Elkin, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)Full name of third joint inventor, if any JEFFRY A. KOLDEInventor's signature* 

date

Residence 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any ROBERT S. MALLOUK

Inventor's signature* _____

date

Residence 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)Citizenship U.S.A.Post Office Address 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

ATTACHED IS ADDED PAGE TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SIGNATURE BY THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT INVENTORS FORM.

* Before signing this declaration, each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

After the declaration is signed, the specification and claims are not to be altered.

To the inventor(s):

The following are cited in or pertinent to the declaration attached to the accompanying application:

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, §1.56

Duty to disclose information material to patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Title 35 U.S. Code § 101

Inventions patentable

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 102

Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent,
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(e) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other ...

Title 35 U.S. Code § 103

Conditions for patentability; non-obvious subject matter

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 112 (in part)

Docket No. 0769-4582US1**Specification**

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 119**Benefit of earlier filing date in foreign country; right of priority**

An application for patent for an invention filed in this country by any person who has, or whose legal representatives or assigns have, previously regularly filed an application for a patent for the same invention in a foreign country which affords similar privileges in the case of applications filed in the United States or to citizens of the United States, shall have the same effect as the same application would have if filed in this country on the date on which the application for patent for the same invention was first filed in such foreign country, if the application in this country is filed within twelve months from the earliest date on which such foreign application was filed; but no patent shall be granted on any application for patent for an invention which had been patented or described in a printed publication in any country more than one year before the date of the actual filing of the application in this country, or which had been in public use or on sale in this country more than one year prior to such filing.

Title 35 U.S. Code. § 120**Benefit of earlier filing date in the United States**

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the pendency or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

Please read carefully before signing the Declaration attached to the accompanying Application.

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

FORM: COMB-DEC.NY
Rev. 7/23/06

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL,
DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION**

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: ULTRA-THIN COMPOSITE MEMBRANE the specification of which

- a. [] is attached hereto
- b. [x] was filed on July 8, 1998 as application Serial No. 09/209,932 and was amended on January 27, 1999, June 4, 1999, June 28, 1999, and November 12, 1999. (if applicable).

PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STAGE

- c. [] was described and claimed in International Application No. _____ filed on _____ and as amended on _____. (if any).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

We hereby specify the following as the correspondence address to which all communications about this application are to be directed:

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Michael S Marcus

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10154

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Michael S Marcus (202) 857-7887

[] We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a)-(d) or under § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S. listed below and also have identified below such foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or such PCT international application(s) filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date within twelve (12) months before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

[] The attached 35 U.S.C. § 119 claim for priority for the application(s) listed below forms a part of this declaration.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date of filing (day, month, yr)</u>	<u>Date of issue (day, month, yr)</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
				<u>[] YES [] NO</u>
				<u>[] YES [] NO</u>
				<u>[] YES [] NO</u>

we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any U.S. provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Provisional Application No.</u>	<u>Date of filing (day, month, yr)</u>

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART
OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S) (DESIGNATING THE U.S.)**

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the U.S. listed below.

<u>08/903,844</u>	<u>July 31, 1997</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)
<u>08/339,425</u>	<u>November 14, 1994</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)

In this continuation-in-part application, insofar as the subject matter of any of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the above listed prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Gary A. Samuels, 20,811; John S. Campbell, 28,366; Victor M. Genco, Jr., 34,335; David J. Johns, 31,527; Wayne D. House, 34,623; Eric J. Sheets, 30,326; Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306; Allan M. Wheatcraft (36,307) of W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., whose address is 551 Paper Mill Road, Newark, DE 19714,9206;

John A. Diaz (Reg. No. 19,550), John C. Vassil (Reg. No. 19,098), Alfred P. Ewert (Reg. No. 19,887), David H. Pfeffer (Reg. No. 19,825), Harry C. Marcus (Reg. No. 22,390), Robert E. Paulson (Reg. No. 21,046), Stephen R. Smith (Reg. No. 22,615), Kurt E. Richter (Reg. No. 24,052), J. Robert Dailey (Reg. No. 27,434), Eugene Moroz (Reg. No. 25,237), John F. Sweeney (Reg. No. 27,471), Arnold I. Rady (Reg. No. 26,601), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), William S. Feuer (Reg. No. 26,728), Joseph A. Calvaruso (Reg. No. 28,287), James W. Gould

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

(Reg. No. 28,859), Richard C. Komson (Reg. No. 27,913), Israel Blum (Reg. No. 26,710), Bartholomew Verdirame (Reg. No. 28,483), Maria C.H. Lin (reg. No. 29,323), Joseph A. DeGirolamo (Reg. No. 28,595), Michael P. Dougherty (Reg. No. 32,730), Seth J. Atlas (Reg. No. 32,454), Andrew M. Riddles (Reg. No. 31,657), Bruce D. DeRenzi (Reg. No. 33,676), Michael M. Murray (Reg. No. 32,537), Mark J. Abate (Reg. No. 32,527), Alfred L. Haffner, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,919), Harold Haidt (Reg. No. 17,509), John T. Gallagher (Reg. No. 35,516), Steven F. Meyer (Reg. No. 35,613) and Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld (Reg. No. 33,285) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P. whose address is 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10154; and Edward A. Pennington (Reg. No. 32,588), Michael S. Marcus (Reg. No. 31,727) and John E. Hael (Reg. No. 26,279) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P., whose address is 1775 Eye Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006.

[] We hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove to accept and follow instructions from _____ as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and/or agents and me. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken we will so notify the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove.

Full name of sole or first inventor BAMDAD BAHAR

Inventor's signature* _____ date _____
Residence 44 F Queen Neva Court, Chester, Maryland 21619 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 44 F Queen Neva Court, Chester, Maryland 21619 (U.S.A.)

Full name of second joint inventor ALEX R. HOBSON

Inventor's signature* _____ date _____
Residence 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Full name of third joint inventor, if any JEFFRY A. KOLDE

Inventor's signature* _____ date _____
Residence 125 Independence Drive, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 125 Independence Drive, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any ROBERT S. MALLOUK

Inventor's signature Robert J. Mallouk date July 21, 2002

Residence 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

ATTACHED IS ADDED PAGE TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SIGNATURE BY THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT INVENTORS FORM.

* Before signing this declaration, each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

After the declaration is signed, the specification and claims are not to be altered.

To the inventor(s):

The following are cited in or pertinent to the declaration attached to the accompanying application:

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, §1.56

Duty to disclose information material to patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Title 35, U S Code § 101

Inventions patentable

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Title 35 U S Code § 102

Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent,

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States, or

(c) he has abandoned the invention, or

(d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or

(f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or

(g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other ...

Title 35, U S Code § 103

Conditions for patentability; non-obvious subject matter

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Title 35, U S Code § 112 (in part)

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

Specification

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 119

Benefit of earlier filing date in foreign country; right of priority

An application for patent for an invention filed in this country by any person who has, or whose legal representatives or assigns have, previously regularly filed an application for a patent for the same invention in a foreign country which affords similar privileges in the case of applications filed in the United States or to citizens of the United States, shall have the same effect as the same application would have if filed in this country on the date on which the application for patent for the same invention was first filed in such foreign country, if the application in this country is filed within twelve months from the earliest date on which such foreign application was filed; but no patent shall be granted on any application for patent for an invention which had been patented or described in a printed publication in any country more than one year before the date of the actual filing of the application in this country, or which had been in public use or on sale in this country more than one year prior to such filing.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 120

Benefit or earlier filing date in the United States

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

Please read carefully before signing the Declaration attached to the accompanying Application.

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

FORM: COMB-DEC.NY
Rev. 7/23/06

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
BAHAR, et al. :
Serial No.: 09/209,932 :
Filed on: July 8, 1998 :
For: ULTRA-THIN INTEGRAL
COMPOSITE MEMBRANE :

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: B. Copenheaver

Official

FAX RECEIVED

MAY 7 2001

GROUP 1700

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE

I am empowered to sign this CONSENT on behalf of the undersigned assignee, W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., who is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest of U.S. Patent application serial No. 09/209,932. A Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73 (b) is being filed concurrently herewith.

The undersigned assignee consents to adding Robert S. Mallouk, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317, U.S.A., as a named inventor in the above application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 05-04-01

By: A. Holliday Williams
A. Holliday Williams
Assistant Secretary
W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant: BAHAR, ET AL.

Patent No.:

Application No.: 09/209,932

Filed: July 8, 1998

Entitled: ULTRA-THIN INTEGRAL COMPOSITE MEMBRANE

W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES, INC., a corporation,

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, governmental agency, etc.)

certifies that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. an assignee of an undivided part interest

in the patent and reissue patent application identified above by virtue of either:

A. [X] An assignment from the ROBERT S. MALLOUK of the patent application identified above. The assignment is being recorded at this time a copy of which is attached.

OR

B. [X] A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the application identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: BAHAR, ET AL. To: W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 9115, Frame 0389,
or for which a copy thereof is attached.

[] Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

The undersigned is empowered to sign this certificate on behalf of the assignee.

Date: 05-04-01

A. Holliday Williams
Assistant Secretary
W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Docket No. 0769-4582US1

ASSIGNMENT OF APPLICATION FOR PATENT

WHEREAS:

ROBERT S. MALLOUK of 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

(full name(s) and post office address(s) of inventor(s) (including country))

(hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNOR(S)), has made a discovery or invention entitled:

ULTRA-THIN INTEGRAL COMPOSITE MEMBRANE

(title of (discovery or invention))

[] for which application for Letters Patent of the United States has been executed on even date herewith.

[X] for which application for Letters Patent of the United States has been filed on July 8, 1998, under Serial No. 09/209,932, and amended January 27, 1999, and

WHEREAS:

W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., 551 Paper Mill Road, P.O. Box 9206, Newark, Delaware 19714-9206, U.S.
(name and address of assignee)

(hereinafter referred to as ASSIGNEE), is desirous of acquiring the entire interest in, to and under said invention and in, to and under Letters Patent or similar legal protection to be obtained therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that for good and valuable consideration by ASSIGNEE to ASSIGNOR, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, ASSIGNOR hereby sells, assigns and transfers to ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the full and exclusive right, title and interest to said discovery or invention in the United States and its territorial possessions and in all foreign countries and to all Letters Patent or similar legal protection in the United States and its territorial possessions and in any and all foreign countries to be obtained for said invention by said application or any continuation, division, renewal, substitute or reissue thereof or any legal equivalent thereof in a foreign country for the full term or terms for which the same may be granted.

WE, SAID ASSIGNOR(S), hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States of America whose duty it is to issue Letters Patent on applications as aforesaid, to issue all such Letters Patent for said discovery or invention to the ASSIGNEE, as assignee of the entire right, title and interest in, to and under the same, for the sole use and behalf of the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

Docket No. 0769-4587US1

WE, SAID, ASSIGNOR(S), hereby covenant that I have full right to convey the entire right, title and interest herein sold, assigned, transferred and set over:

AND WE, SAID ASSIGNOR(S) hereby further covenant and agree that the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives, or assigns, may apply for foreign Letters Patent on said discovery or invention and claim the benefits of the International Convention, and that I will, at any time, when called upon to do so by the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives, or assigns, communicate to the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives, or assigns, as the case may be, any facts known to me respecting said discovery or invention, and execute and deliver any and all lawful papers that may be necessary or desirable to perfect the title to the said discovery or invention, the said applications and the said Letters Patent in the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, and that if reissues of the said Letters Patent or disclaimers relating thereto, or divisions, continuations, or refilings of the said applications, or any thereof, shall hereafter be desired by the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives, or assigns, I will, at any time, when called upon to do so by the ASSIGNEE its successors, legal representatives, or assigns, sign all lawful papers, make all rightful oaths, execute and deliver all such disclaimers and all divisional, continuation and reissue applications so desired, and do all lawful acts requisite for the application for such reissues and the procuring thereof and for the filing of such disclaimers and such applications, and generally do everything possible to aid the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said invention or discovery in all countries, all without further compensation but at the expense of the ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns.

Assignor's signature: Robert S. Malook

ROBERT S. MALLOUK

July 21, 2000

Citizenship: United States

July 21, 2000

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 21 day of July, 2000

STATE OF)
 ss.:
COUNTY OF)

On this day of , 19 , before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared to me known and known to me to be the individual who is described in and who executed the foregoing Assignment, and who duly acknowledged to me that he executed the same as his own voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein specified.

Notary Public

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL,
DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION**

As below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and joint of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: ULTRA-THIN COMPOSITE MEMBRANE the specification of which

a. [] is attached hereto

b. [x] was filed on July 8, 1998 as application Serial No. 09/209,932 and was amended on January 27, 1999, June 4, 1999, June 28, 1999, and November 12, 1999. (if applicable).

PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STAGE

c. [] was described and claimed in International Application No. _____ filed on _____ and as amended on _____. (if any).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

We hereby specify the following as the correspondence address to which all communications about this application are to be directed:

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Michael S. Marcus

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
345 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10154

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Michael S. Marcus (202) 857-7887

[] We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 (a)-(d) or under § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S. listed below and also have identified below such foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or such PCT international application(s) filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date within twelve (12) months before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

[] The attached 35 U.S.C. § 119 claim for priority for the application(s) listed below forms a part of this declaration.

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date of filing</u> (day, month, yr)	<u>Date of issue</u> (day, month, yr)	<u>Priority</u> <u>Claimed</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				

[] we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any U.S. provisional application(s) listed below.

Provisional Application No.

Date of filing (day, month, yr)

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART
OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S) (DESIGNATING THE U.S.)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 120 of any United States application(s) or under § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the U.S. listed below.

<u>08/903,844</u>	<u>July 31, 1997</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)
<u>08/339,425</u>	<u>November 14, 1994</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
US/PCT Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)/ U.S. application no. assigned (For PCT)

[] In this continuation-in-part application, insofar as the subject matter of any of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the above listed prior United States or PCT international application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or Imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Gary A. Samuels, 20,811; John S. Campbell, 28,366; Victor M. Genco, Jr., 34,335; David J. Johns, 31,527; Wayne D. House, 34,623; Eric J. Sheets, 30,326; Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306; Allan M. Wheatcraft (36,307) of W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc., whose address is 551 Paper Mill Road, Newark, DE 19714,9206;

John A. Diaz (Reg. No. 19,550), John C. Vassil (Reg. No. 19,098), Alfred P. Ewert (Reg. No. 19,887), David H. Pfeffer (Reg. No. 19,825), Harry C. Marcus (Reg. No. 22,390), Robert E. Paulson (Reg. No. 21,046), Stephen R. Smith (Reg. No. 22,615), Kurt E. Richter (Reg. No. 24,052), J. Robert Dailey (Reg. No. 27,434), Eugene Moroz (Reg. No. 25,237), John F. Sweeney (Reg. No. 27,471), Arnold I. Rady (Reg. No. 26,601), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. No. 26,914), William S. Feiler (Reg. No. 26,728), Joseph A. Calvaruso (Reg. No. 28,287), James W. Gould

(Reg. No. 28,859), Richard C. Komson (Reg. No. 27,913), Israel Blum (Reg. No. 26,710), Bartholomew Verdirame (Reg. No. 28,483), Maria C.H. Lin (reg. No. 29,323), Joseph A. DeGirolamo (Reg. No. 28,595), Michael P. Dougherty (Reg. No. 32,730), Seth J. Atlas (Reg. No. 32,454), Andrew M. Riddles (Reg. No. 31,657), Bruce D. DeRenzi (Reg. No. 33,676), Michael M. Murray (Reg. No. 32,537), Mark J. Abate (Reg. No. 32,527), Alfred L. Haffner, Jr. (Reg. No. 18,919), Harold Haidt (Reg. No. 17,509), John T. Gallagher (Reg. No. 35,516), Steven F. Meyer (Reg. No. 35,613) and Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld (Reg. No. 33,285) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P. whose address is: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10154; and Edward A. Pennington (Reg. No. 32,588), Michael S. Marcus (Reg. No. 31,727) and John E. Hoel (Reg. No. 26,279) of Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P., whose address is 1775 Eye Street, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006.

[] We hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove to accept and follow instructions from _____ as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and/or agents and me. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken we will so notify the U.S. attorneys and/or agents named hereinabove.

Full name of sole or first inventor BAMDAD BAHAR

Inventor's signature* _____

date

Residence 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 2906 Cox Neck Road East, Chester, MD 21619 (U.S.A.)

Full name of second joint inventor ALEX R. HOBSON

Inventor's signature* Alex R. Hobson

4/24/01

date

Residence 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 110 Liberty Lane, Elkton, Maryland 21921 (U.S.A.)

Full name of third joint inventor, if any JEFFRY A. KOLDE

Inventor's signature* Jeffrey A. Kolde

4/24/01

date

Residence 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 108 Fernwood Drive, Avondale, PA 19311 (U.S.A.)

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any ROBERT S. MALLOUK

Inventor's signature* _____

date

Residence 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

Citizenship U.S.A.

Post Office Address 103 Wedgewood Drive, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania 19317 (U.S.A.)

- [] ATTACHED IS ADDED PAGE TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR SIGNATURE BY THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT INVENTORS FORM.

* Before signing this declaration, each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

After the declaration is signed, the specification and claims are not to be altered.

To the inventor(s):

The following are cited in or pertinent to the declaration attached to the accompanying application:

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, §1.56

Duty to disclose information material to patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

Title 35, U.S. Code § 101

Inventions patentable

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Title 35 U.S. Code § 102

Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent,

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States, or

(c) he has abandoned the invention, or

(d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or

(f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or

(g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other ...

Title 35, U.S. Code § 103

Conditions for patentability; non-obvious subject matter

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Title 35, U.S. Code § 112 (in part)

Specification

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Title 35, U.S. Code, § 119

Benefit of earlier filing date in foreign country; right of priority

An application for patent for an invention filed in this country by any person who has, or whose legal representatives or assigns have, previously regularly filed an application for a patent for the same invention in a foreign country which affords similar privileges in the case of applications filed in the United States or to citizens of the United States, shall have the same effect as the same application would have if filed in this country on the date on which the application for patent for the same invention was first filed in such foreign country, if the application in this country is filed within twelve months from the earliest date on which such foreign application was filed; but no patent shall be granted on any application for patent for an invention which had been patented or described in a printed publication in any country more than one year before the date of the actual filing of the application in this country, or which had been in public use or on sale in this country more than one year prior to such filing.

Title 35, U.S. Code, § 120

Benefit or earlier filing date in the United States

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, which is filed by an inventor or inventors named in the previously filed application shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

Please read carefully before signing the Declaration attached to the accompanying Application.

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

FORM: COMB-DEC.NY
Rev. 7/23/06